



## Commonwealth of Kentucky Labor Cabinet

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**Steven L. Beshear, Governor**

**Larry L. Roberts, Secretary**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Kentucky Labor Cabinet to Hold Free OSHA Training in Owensboro to Help Workers, Employers**

*Free courses July 14-17 at Owensboro Convention Center*

**FRANKFORT, Ky. (July 1, 2014)** – The Kentucky Labor Cabinet will hold free training courses from July 14-17 at the Owensboro Convention Center, 501 W. Second St., in Owensboro. The training includes various topics that will benefit nearly all types of workers and employers in Kentucky.

Participants will be able to choose from a wide variety of courses, including an overview of the Kentucky Occupational Safety and Health Program (OSH), proper lockout/tagout methods, back care and ergonomics, health hazard recognition, fire protection and planning, hazard communications, electrical safety and protection against bloodborne pathogens.

“We are particularly excited about the free training in Owensboro because of the wide impact of the courses,” said Labor Secretary Larry L. Roberts. “Office ergonomics, for example, is such an important issue because of the large number of people it affects. All of these training sessions are designed to help employers keep their employees healthy and safe on the job.”

Ergonomics helps prevent musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs), which are among the most common causes of severe long-term pain and physical disability in the United States. The Bureau of Labor Statistics reports MSDs account for approximately 30 percent of all worker injury and illness cases, putting them among the most frequently reported causes of lost or restricted work time.

The courses include group-based and hands-on learning activities, and will feature presentations from the highly-trained staff of the Kentucky Labor Cabinet.

To register online, click [here](#).

The free training program is part of Gov. Beshear's efforts to improve the health of all Kentuckians. The Governor launched [kyhealthnow](#) in February as an aggressive and wide-ranging initiative to significantly reduce incidents and deaths from Kentucky's dismal health rankings and habits. It builds on Kentucky's successful implementation of health care reform and uses multiple strategies over the next several years to improve the state's collective health.

The following is a schedule of the training courses:

### **Monday, July 14**

#### **Overview of the Kentucky OSH Program: 8:30 - 11:30 a.m.**

Topics of discussion include the operations of the Kentucky OSH Program, including enforcement and voluntary compliance services, and safety and health topics currently considered for future standards and policies.

#### **Lockout/Tagout: 1 - 4 p.m.**

Attendees will learn about lockout/tagout methods relating to the various hazardous energy sources associated with machinery, equipment, and processes used in industry. Topics addressed include training requirements, documentation required, hardware and group lockout procedures.

### **Tuesday, July 15**

#### **Back Care and Office Ergonomics: 8:30-11:30 a.m.**

This course explains why many back injuries occur from lifting and how they may be prevented. The office ergonomics portion focuses on recognizing risk factors, reducing worker stress, and avoiding potential musculoskeletal disorders associated with everyday computer use.

#### **Health Hazard Recognition: 1 - 4 p.m.**

Topics of discussion include how to anticipate, recognize, evaluate, and control health hazards in the workplace such as, but not limited to, various types of chemical exposures and noise exposure. While this course will not teach the attendee how to practice industrial hygiene, it will provide information as to the role of the industrial hygienist in the workplace and assist in determining when it may be necessary to utilize the services of an industrial hygienist.

### **Wednesday, July 16**

#### **Fire Protection and Emergency Action: 8:30 - 11:30 a.m.**

Participants will learn how to develop and implement effective emergency action and fire prevention plans, as well as maintain exit routes. Classification of fires, fire extinguishment methods, fire detection systems and employee alarm systems also will be addressed.

#### **Hazard Communication: 1 - 4 p.m.**

Attendees will learn about chemical hazard classification, written program requirements, container labeling, other forms of warning, safety data sheets and associated deadlines for the requirements under the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals.

### **Thursday, July 17**

#### **Electrical Safety: 8 a.m. - noon**

Attendees will be taught the basic elements of developing an effective electrical safety program. Topics include details of electrical hazards, protective equipment and tools for electrical work, energized and de-energized work procedures, elements of an arc flash hazard assessment, and definition of a “qualified” person. The session also includes a review of applicable OSHA case studies and the agency’s enforcement of applicable standards.

**Note:** This course is not eligible for continuing education unit credits toward electrical licensure. Attendees will not become a “qualified person” from only attending this course.

#### **Bloodborne Pathogens: 1- 4 p.m.**

Topics of discussion include applicable definitions, infection control, engineering and work practice controls involving bloodborne pathogens, such as hepatitis B virus and human immunodeficiency virus.

### **About the free training courses**

Each year the Labor Cabinet presents a series of cost-free courses at major population centers throughout Kentucky. These courses are for both employers and employees, and are typically given over a one-week period in each population center. The courses are designed to outline the requirements contained in the various subparts of the general industry and construction standards, covering both safety and health issues.

Upcoming sessions in 2014 include Lexington in August and Louisville in October. The classes will be available for viewing and online registration approximately four weeks prior to each session. The complete schedule is available on the Labor Cabinet's website, [www.labor.ky.gov](http://www.labor.ky.gov).

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*The Kentucky Labor Cabinet's primary responsibility is to ensure that divisions and offices falling under the auspices of the Cabinet work within the jurisdiction of Kentucky labor law to ensure equitable and fair treatment of the Commonwealth's more than 1.9 million wage-earning employees. The Cabinet, according to regulation, has the duties, responsibilities, power, and authority relating to labor, wage and hour issues, occupational safety and health of employees, child labor, apprenticeship, workers' compensation insurance, and all other matters under the jurisdiction of the Labor Cabinet. For more information, visit [www.labor.ky.gov](http://www.labor.ky.gov).*

